

Making a difference: Karen Weber, pg. 5

THE

# GATEWAY

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1913



PRIZE WINNING  
NEWSPAPER  
2005  
Nebraska Press Association

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photo by Crystal Reid

Students stage a sit-in at the chancellor's office Wednesday to protest a decision to discontinue professor Pamela Jean Owen's teaching job.

## Students protest in support of professor

SCOTT STEWART  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER / SYSTEMS MANAGER

Students protested the discontinuance of tenure for professor Pamela Jean Owens Wednesday afternoon when more than 30 students came out in support of the disputed professor.

The students conducted a sit-in protest in the office of Chancellor Nancy Belck from noon to 2 p.m., sitting quietly to express their concern that Owens will not receive tenure. Tenure provides job security for qualified professors as long as they meet the basic expectations of the university.

Buttons and a petition were also circulated among those present.

"It's really just support of a phenomenal teacher," said UNO student Cody Farrells. "It's a shame they're trying to get rid of her for no reason."

The reappointment, promotion and tenure process is a well-documented personnel process in which a faculty member is reviewed and given employment considerations based on a hierarchical chain of recommendations. The process begins with the faculty members in

See **SIT-IN:** Page 3

## Study, programs focus on student literacy

SCOTT STEWART  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER / SYSTEMS MANAGER

A new study shows that 20 percent of students pursuing a bachelor's degree nationwide have only basic quantitative literacy skills. This rate rises to 30 percent for students earning associate degrees.

"Quantitative literacy involves the ability to perform computations—including balancing a checkbook, calculating a tip, or completing an order form," according to the American Institutes for Research.

The National Survey of America's College Students showed improvements in the areas of prose literacy, which includes comprehending newspapers, and document literacy, which includes comprehending tables and maps.

Overall college students' average performances were higher than adults' performances nationwide, but the achievement was still below what many consider necessary for handling complex real-life situations.

See **LITERACY:** Page 2

## Whooping cough makes a comeback

JAMEE CLASEN  
STAFF WRITER

It sounds like something a baby might catch, but whooping cough is making a comeback across college campuses.

Whooping cough, or pertussis, is named for the characteristic "whooping" sound it creates when an infected person inhales after coughing spasms. Last year, this mysterious bacterial disease accounted for approximately 83 percent of missed school days, according to data presented by Dr. Archana Chatterjee, a Creighton University pediatrician.

"We know there has been an outbreak, because we keep seeing cases come up in our labs," said Dr. Pete Iwen, assistant professor of pathology and microbiology at UNMC.

According to reports, before the vaccine was available, whooping cough killed 5,000-10,000 people each year.

Today, it remains potentially deadly to unvaccinated children and infants. The pertussis immunization is required for children to enter most schools, according

See **WHOOPING COUGH:** Page 2

## Speech Center Opens



photo by Michelle Bishop

Connie Eberhart, with the English department and director of the Writing Center, enjoys cookies at the grand opening of the UNO College of Communication, Fine Arts and Media Speech Center on Jan. 25. The reception lasted from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. with several faculty members speaking, and a short address by Chancellor Nancy Belck. The Speech Center was created to promote 'speaking across the curriculum,' and to enhance communication skills across campus.

## Omaha Weather



Today

Partly Cloudy

H: 53 L: 36

### NEWS

News you can use

page 2



### FEATURES

DUI no joke

page 4

### ENTERTAINMENT

Flight Plan  
DVD review

page 6

### Index

News .....	2	Sports .....	7
Features .....	4		
Entertainment .....	6	Classifieds .....	8

8 Pages

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

## News you can use

COMPILED BY COLLEEN O'DOHERTY AND ANGI SADA

### Spring schedule announced for GLBTQ dialogues

Faculty, staff and students interested in making UNO a safe environment for members of the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning community are invited to participate in a series of campus dialogues this spring. The schedule is listed below.

Wednesday, Feb. 8

11 a.m. to noon

Milo Bail Student Center (MBSC) Gallery Room

Tuesday, Feb. 28

Noon to 1 p.m.

MBSC Council Room

Wednesday, March 22

11 a.m. to noon

MBSC Gallery Room

Thursday, April 13

Noon to 1 p.m.

MBSC Gallery Room

All those interested in attending are invited to bring their lunch. For more information, contact Sharon Ulmar at 554-2872.

### Nominations sought for 2006 Sparks Award

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2006 Robert D. Sparks, M.D., Award. The award, named

after Sparks - a former chancellor at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, has been established through the University of Nebraska Foundation to recognize University of Nebraska faculty members, regularly enrolled students and/or volunteers involved in faculty or student research projects for outstanding innovation, excellence, collaboration and impact on health promotion, disease prevention and advancement of effective public health approaches.

The award recipient will receive a \$1,000 cash award and will be honored at a luncheon set for Thursday, April 6, at the Scott Conference Center, 6450 Pine St.

All nominations must be received or postmarked no later than Wednesday, Feb. 15. E-mail, fax and postal nominations will be accepted. Nominations should include:

- A completed nomination form and attached description of the nominee's qualifications (no more than two pages in length);
- Up to two letters supporting the nomination; and
- An up-to-date or résumé for the nominee.

The Awards Selection Committee will use the following criteria in evaluating nominations as demonstrated in their work practice/products:

- Excellence;
- Innovation/creativity;
- Collaboration; and
- Impact on health promotion, disease prevention, and/or advancement of effective public health approaches.

The nomination form, letters of support, and the nominee's résumé will be the primary sources of information for selecting award recipients.

Nomination materials and questions about the award should be directed to:

Magda G. Peck, Sc.D. Chair, Robert D. Sparks Award Committee Collaborating Center for Public Health & Community Service 210 South 49th St. Omaha, NE 68132

For more information call 561-7566 or fax 561-7525

### Spring Archery/Golf Lab hours under way

Campus Recreation announces its spring 2006 open archery and golf lab hours. The lab is located in Health, Physical Education and Recreation room 230. The schedule is as follows:

Tuesday

3 to 5 p.m.

Wednesday

3 to 5 p.m.

Friday

Noon to 2 p.m.

Open archery and golf lab hours

will run through Friday, April 14. Equipment is available for checkout, or participants may bring their own. The lab is supervised for open practice only. Instruction is not available. The lab will be closed March 13-17 during spring break.

For more information, call 554-2539.

### Masters and Music Series Continues Jan. 29

The Masters and Music series at UNO continues Sunday, Jan. 29, with a tribute to the late Kent Bellows.

The event, "Capturing the Human Spirit in Art," will begin at 5 p.m. in the UNO Art Gallery. Tickets are \$15 per person, and all proceeds benefit the Friends of Art Scholarship Fund.

For more information or to make a reservation, contact Hofschire at 554-2402.

### Editor of *Progressive* to speak on campus

Matthew Rothschild, editor of *The Progressive*, will build "The Case for Impeachment" during a public presentation in the MBSC Dodge Room A. The event is free of charge, open to the public and begins at 7 p.m. For more information, contact Bruce Johansen at bjohansen@mail.unomaha.edu.

### From WHOOPING COUGH: Page 1

to reports. But the vaccination wanes off in about five to seven years, creating a problem for adults in their 20s or older.

"This used to be a disease we associated with childhood," said Marcia Adler, coordinator of Student Health Services, "but right now we are seeing a glut of whooping cough starting to appear in adults."

"Symptoms of whooping cough are very similar to those of a cold," Adler said.

They can include a runny nose, sneezing, a mild fever and a mild cough. But after two weeks, the cough does not

disappear and can last up to 10 weeks. The diagnosis is frequently missed, therefore allowing the bacteria to spread. Adler said if left untreated, pertussis can lead to pneumonia.

Even with the mild weather, many students have been coming down with coughs and colds, and having a hard time getting rid of them.

"I have been sick for at least a month now with cold and flu-like symptoms," said junior Jillian Kinzer. "Pretty much everyone I know, including my roommates, has been sick lately too."

Sophomore Mike Blecha agreed.

"I have been coughing and blowing my nose for about two weeks straight," he said.

Whooping cough is spread by contact with the germ or airborne droplets.

"There is an 80 percent chance that non-immunized family members will develop whooping cough if they live in the same household as someone who has the infection," Adler said.

Whooping cough is 100 percent preventable with immunization, she said.

"The immunization has very low side effects," Adler said.

She encourages all students to be sure they receive the vaccination at least once every 10 years.

The shot is available at Student Health

# THE GATEWAY

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1913

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# Diversity Week Slated to Connect Students

CASSY LOSEKE  
STAFF WRITER

"Color Me Human" Diversity Week kicks off Monday, Jan. 30 with a Cultural Organization and Department Fair in the Nebraska Room of the Milo Bail Student Center.

"[The event] started four years ago by some students who wanted to raise cultural diversity awareness," said Erin Cron, American Multicultural Students adviser.

AMS is one of the four Student Government agencies whose primary goal is to promote cultural awareness "through weaving an understanding of, and appreciation for, diversity in life of the university institution," according to the AMS Web site.

Students will have the opportunity to learn more about the different cultures by checking out the exhibits and presentations at the Cultural Organization and Department Fair Monday. Several UNO departments were invited to be at the fair, including the Department of Black Studies, the Office for Latino/Latin American Studies and the Office for Equal Opportunities.

The agency has been working on putting together this event and its programs for quite some time.

"Marquita Govan, the previous AMS director, started planning for this week last semester and has since left the agency. However, I have been able to continue her work, with the help of the students," Cron said.

Tuesday's program includes a poetry open mic featuring SPOWkun Word and the UNO chapter of the National Council for Negro Women.

On Wednesday, Barbee Cain will hold a Henna art demonstration starting from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Diversity Week will wind down with a music performance by Jesus "Chuy" Negrete, a Latino Musician, on Thursday, Feb. 2. A luncheon and performance of "Dr. King's Dream" by Mixed Blood Theater in the Ballroom will complete the week on Friday, Feb. 3.

"The luncheon offers a great lunch at a reasonable price, \$3 for students," said Cron.

"Everyone is welcome and encouraged to be there; we especially encourage students to come out and support the event."

Tickets for the luncheon and performance can be purchased at the MBSC Business Office, on the second floor of MBSC, or by calling 554-2979.

Comments?  
Concerns?  
Complaints?

Write the Editor at  
editor@gateway.unomaha.edu

From SIT-IN: Page 1

the department or school, proceeds to the chair or director, then to a special committee at the college level. This committee passes on its recommendations to the dean of the college, who then reports to the Office of Academic Affairs.

The process was explained pictorially on a handout distributed by the Chancellor's Office. Unfortunately, only about a half dozen of these handouts were printed, so students were asked to share the handouts.

Students in support of Owens recently set up a group on the social Web site Facebook.com, as well as a Web site to promote their cause, pamelajeanowens.org.

The protest was arranged at the last minute and was finalized Tuesday night. Buttons were produced with assistance from the College Democrat organization, which is not directly involved in the Owens dispute.

"We realized it was getting close to game time," Farrens said. "She was not involved in this at all—this is

completely student-run, we didn't go to her for anything. The students, we felt, needed to say something."

The opinions of the students in attendance seemed as varied as their backgrounds, which included several academic years, majors and non-traditional students. Among the soft chatter were stories about Owens, frustration at the perceived snubbing of Owens and speculation as to the impact of race and gender on the awarding of tenure by the university administration.

Sophomore Katie Tawdy admitted that she did not know Owens very well, but said she knew people who lauded Owens teaching.

"It seems like she's been unfairly represented. She is a very intelligent, compassionate lady," Tawdy said. "I was hoping to get a class with her, but if she is fired, I won't be able to do that."

The Owens dispute has generated several other unconfirmed claims, like one circling the sit-in that the

administration threw away letters of support for Owens from students.

"I took her two semesters ago; it was a phenomenal teaching experience," said student Paul Smith. "She created a safe environment for us to talk. Her teaching style hasn't changed."

A similar sit-in was staged last year to protest the original attempt to discontinue her work at UNO.

Belck was unavailable for comment Wednesday afternoon, but Sheri Rogers, associate vice chancellor for academic affairs, was reached.

"We really can't comment on personnel issues," Rogers said.

She also noted that the process for tenure is "consistent with the Board of Regents Bylaws and the AAUP faculty contract."

Shelton Hendricks, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences who has been working recently on the Owens decision, was unavailable for comment because he was out of town for the rest of the week.

# COLOR ME HUMAN DIVERSITY WEEK

JANUARY 30 - FEBRUARY 3

**Mon Jan. 30: Cultural Organization & Depart. Fair**  
11-1, Nebraska Room

**Tue Jan 31: Poetry Open Mic**  
featuring SPOWkun Word & NCNW  
Noon-1, Nebraska Room

**Wed Feb 1: Barbee Cain**  
Henna Art Demonstration  
10-3, Nebraska Room

**Thurs Feb. 2: Jesus "Chuy" Negrete,**  
Latino Musician  
Noon-1, Nebraska Room  
Co-sponsored by The Office of Latino/  
Latina American Studies (OLLAS)

**Fri Feb 3: Color Me Human Luncheon**  
12-1:15, Ballroom  
Featuring Dr. King's Dream  
by Mixedblood Theater

**Tickets available in MBSC Business Office**  
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Diversity Week is sponsored by  
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For more information contact  
Erin Cron, AMS Advisor, 554-2711

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# FEATURES

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Page 4

Josh Bashara | Features Editor

## Drinking and driving: No joking matter

MICHAEL McMANUS  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

With more than 16,000 alcohol-related deaths recorded nationwide in 2005, "driving under the influence" laws may be in for a shocking change.

According to Mothers Against DUI numbers are staggering. Cindy Vidlak, a supporter and donor, says "The concept of drunk driving is simple, Don't do it. If you do, then you should be prepared to pay the consequences."

The consequences were once as simple as Cindy stated: don't drink and drive. However, like many things in life, simple isn't always better.

The laws have seen quite a change throughout history. Because of the increase in drunk driving accidents in the early 30s, the American Medical Association created a "Committee to Study Problems of Motor Vehicle Accidents." The study concluded that those who had a blood-alcohol level of .15 percent or higher were considered intoxicated. This law was enforced for 22 years, until the group MADD stepped in. After years of pressure and persuasion, the level was lowered to .10 percent and later to .08 percent.

Nebraska currently abides

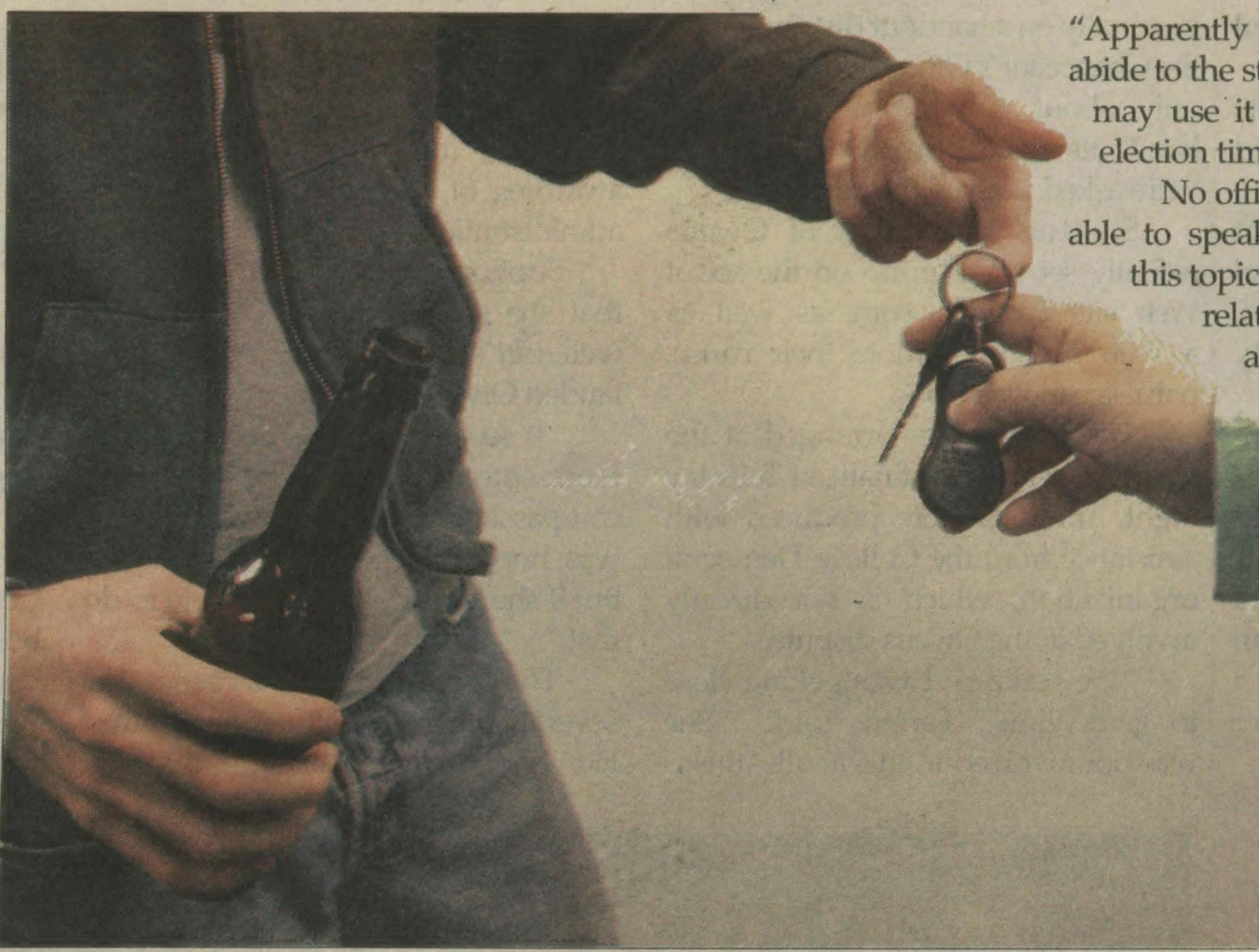


photo illustration by Michelle Bishop

to the .08 percent blood-alcohol level rule, simply meaning that if you blow more than .08 percent you are considered intoxicated and unfit to drive. The laws are clearly stated and according to the Nebraska Department of Motor Vehicles, they are as follows:

First-time offenders are required to serve seven days in jail, fined \$400 and suffer a six-month license revocation. Second-time

offenders are thrown into jail for 30 days, fined \$500 and lose their license for one year. Those who continue to drink and drive serve one year in jail, pay a \$600 fine and lose their license for up to 15 years. These are all minimum sentences, and can be adjusted and increased as the judge sees fit.

To some, these consequences may seem harsh, but according to Mike Wiley, a recent traffic school participant, we might be seeing some big changes.

"The instructor at the Nebraska Safety Council informed the class that some judges are being pressured by law officials to give harsher sentencing to DUI offenders," he says.

"Apparently if the judges don't abide to the state laws, the officers may use it against them come election time."

No officers or officials were able to speak their opinions on this topic and the OPD public relations officer was not available to comment as of press time.

According to Wiley, reasoning behind this pressure is due to the sympathy that judges often show DUI offenders. Although the judges clearly state the minimum sentencing before the hearing begins, very rarely do they follow through with the exact law.

Nick Smay, a recent graduate of UNO, experienced a DUI hearing first-hand.

"I got pulled over last year and arrested for DUI," Smay says. "I went into my hearing without a lawyer and received six months of probation, a \$400 fine and was required to attend Alcoholics Anonymous meetings and one alcohol prevention class. I consider myself fortunate, considering what else could have happened."

Nick was one of many UNO students who experienced less harsh sentencing.

With MADD and other alcohol prevention programs gaining more power, a change may be in store. According to MADD, a zero tolerance policy is the only way to prevent drivers from getting behind the wheel. "Zero tolerance" means no alcohol consumption before driving.

Although this may seem extreme, the premise makes sense: Alcohol impairs a driver. It can

affect their vision, their reaction and most importantly, their consciousness.

A question that often sticks in the minds of students is "How much is too much?"

According to MADD, a female weighing in at around 135 pounds can consume three alcoholic beverages before her blood alcohol level reaches about .08 percent. In men, it may take four or five drinks. It's important to remember that some drinks are made stronger than others, but usually a glass of wine, a 16-ounce beer and a shot of liquor all have about the same alcohol content.

One important factor to keep in mind if you ever get pulled over for drunk driving is to comply with all of the officer's requests. If asked to take a Breathalyzer test, don't refuse—it's required by law. If you refuse, you could be thrown into jail for a year, or worse.

Jared Gard, a senior at UNO, is experiencing this dilemma right now.

"I was pulled over for a DUI and refused the Breathalyzer test," he says. "I wasn't aware of the consequences that were going to come my way. I got a lawyer to defend me in court and got the DUI dropped to reckless driving. I am still, however, fighting the Breathalyzer refusal."

With alcohol prevention organizations on the rise, and alcohol-related fatalities climbing annually to the 20,000 mark, there is no doubt that driving under the influence is a serious issue.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration states that "Although every year 1.5 million impaired drivers are arrested, only one arrest is made for every 772 occurrences of driving under the influence of alcohol."

You do the math. More importantly, do yourself and the drivers on the road a favor—don't drink and drive.

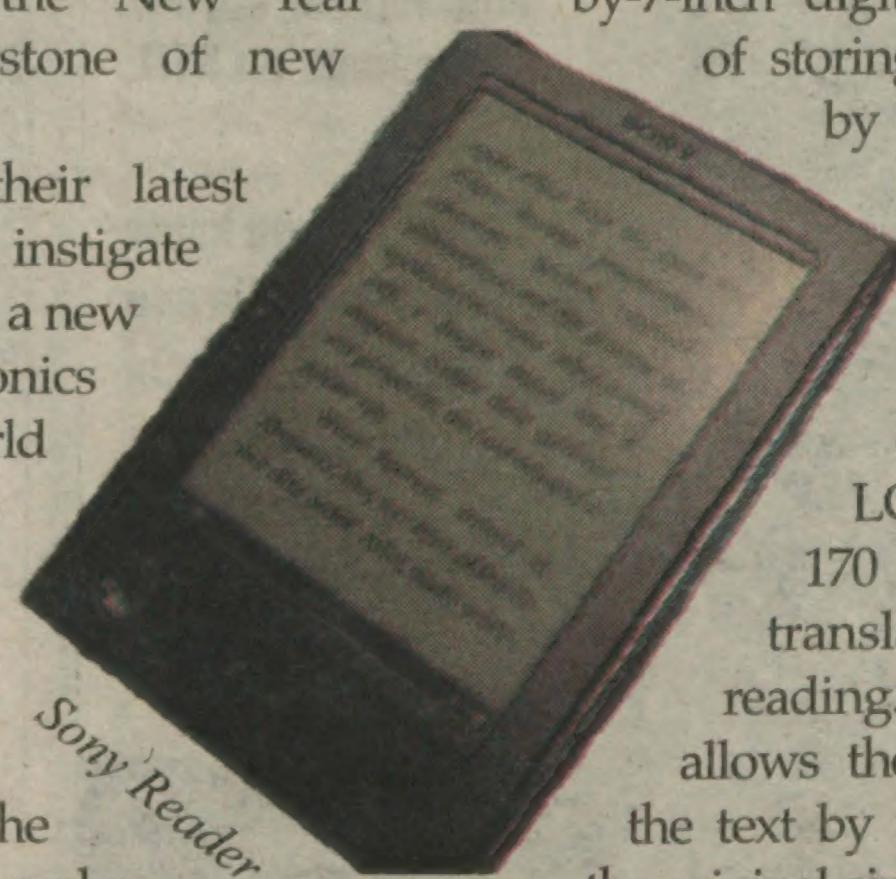
## New gadgets that may be worth your attention and money

COMMENTARY BY SANEL SAMELIVIC

STAFF WRITER

The beginning of the New Year is generally the cornerstone of new technology.

Companies unveil their latest and greatest, hoping to instigate demand during the start of a new year. Consumer Electronics Show (CES) and MacWorld Expo are two of the trade shows where these new products are unveiled. Here are some of the more interesting gadgets to look forward to over the upcoming year that hope to make users' lives easier and experiences more complete:



The Sony Reader is a first viable digital alternative to paper. About the size of a paperback book, the Sony Reader is a 5-by-7-inch digital notebook capable of storing hundreds of books by uploading them from your computer.

Eye strain and readability are often an issue even on some of the best LCD monitors, but at 170 pixels per inch, this translates into smooth reading. The machine also allows the user to zoom into the text by up to 200 percent of the original size. Just like paper, text is viewable at 180-degree angles and in full sunlight. Letters are displayed by polarizing eInk microcapsules, which means

See GADGETS: Page 5

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IN THEATRES FEBRUARY 3RD!

# Making a Difference: Professor Karen Weber

ERIKA BERG  
STAFF WRITER

Armed with crackers, cheese and an assortment of chocolates, professor Karen Weber marches down to her public relations campaign class. No matter the class, students can count on enjoying a piece of chocolate with every piece of advice she hands out.

With a ready smile, contagious laughter and the ability to push her students to accomplish more than they could imagine, Weber's passion for students is evident in the six classes she teaches: news writing and reporting, magazine article writing, public relations writing, media writing, critical writing for the mass media and the public relations campaign class.

Her passion stems from her own experience at UNO where she earned her Bachelor of Science in journalism and her Master of Arts in communication. Described as a "homegrown teacher," she's been actively involved on campus since 1988 when she was a graduate instructor and part-time teacher. In 1991, she became a full-time professor and later would become a faculty adviser.

**What originally made you want to get into teaching?** I like to teach because I love interacting with the students and my fellow professors. I learn so much in the classroom from students who educate me on various issues, trends and general topics that they research. I find it invigorating to learn with them. I'm a voracious reader and I like to be able to instill that passion for the spoken and written word in the classroom.

**How do you feel you're rewarded for going beyond the call of duty?** It's rewarding when I see my students

go on to get jobs in their field, and then come up and thank me for helping them succeed in the classroom or on a project. I like to think that one of my goals as the faculty adviser position for the Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) is to encourage students to give back to their community. If I can encourage them to get practical experience while helping others, I get a personal reward from that.

**In your opinion, what are the qualities that make an exceptional teacher?**

An exceptional teacher is one that is highly knowledgeable in his or her field and willing to be a lifelong learner. They always want to improve their skills in the classroom and are always looking toward the future. Teachers need to really care about the welfare of students and should care about the process of learning—not just the end result.

**Can you describe the last time a student told you that he or she was influenced by one of your classes?**

Actually, that happened a few weeks ago and also just happened yesterday.



I got a thank you note from one of my graduating seniors who thanked me for the help I gave her with her media kit, which she later entered in a contest.

**Do you have any fond memories of a teacher who influenced you in college?**

Oh yes—Dr. Warren Francke. Dr. Francke was so passionate in the classroom that he made learning exciting. He made me work harder as a writer and

I ended up becoming his graduate teaching assistant in graduate school. This motivated me to further learn from him and emulate his teaching style when I had my own classroom. He's also the one that taught me about not using dead construction and making every word count!

**What is the biggest problem you have with teaching?**

One of the biggest challenges is time. It takes a lot of time to cover all my material as well as give as much feedback as I want to. Another challenge is understanding that a majority of students at UNO work full-time and have families. It's difficult to balance

studying with everything that goes on. I want academic studies to be top priority, but I see why it's hard for some students since they're pushed and pulled in so many directions.

**If you could change one thing about UNO what would it be?** I think UNO is getting better all the time, both in academic programs and what's being offered in terms of campus life and extracurricular activities. A dream of mine would be an actual building for the School of Communication—somewhere that could bring in radio and television, but it's just a dream.

**How did you become the PRSSA adviser? Is it what you've expected?** I became the PRSSA adviser because of a faculty member resignation. I had absolutely no idea what being a faculty adviser was all about, so I had to learn everything from scratch. I never imagined that after five years we'd be able to build a chapter and be nationally-recognized for community and university service—it's been very personally rewarding. I hope to keep the chapter growing strong with opportunities to really make a difference on campus and in the community at large.

**Comments?  
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editor@gateway.  
unomaha.edu**

## From GADGETS: Page 4

the battery is only used to change the image, allowing up to 7,500 page turns before the battery is completely drained. Sony Reader will be available in the spring between \$300 and \$400.

New cellular services are hitting the market as well. Verizon announced through vCast, users can download any songs to their phone at \$1.99 per song, or to their PC for .99 cents. Songs downloaded are also automatically downloaded to your PC for free. Presently, the only two phones capable of using this feature are the LG VX8100 and Samsung a950, but Verizon

claims that other phones will come equipped with this feature as they expand their service. Users with compatible phones can already take advantage of this service.



Nintendo Revolution

MacBook Pro carries a quite steep price tag, starting at \$1,999, Apple is expected to refresh their entire product lineup over the course of next year with the new Intel chips. This will generally mean much faster and more affordable machines for students. A moderately priced iBook at \$999 may see a price drop later this year when they are upgraded with an Intel chip. Students should also take note that Apple also offers special educator/student discounts through their online store by entering your school information.

Other technology to watch out for includes Microsoft's announcement of HD-DVD support on Xbox 360 sometime this year. Also, Microsoft's new operating system Windows

Vista is slated for release later this year, and it is a first major release since Windows XP. Both Sony and Nintendo are launching their new consoles, PlayStation 3 and Revolution, respectively. There is no word yet on release date for PlayStation 3; however Nintendo did say that the Revolution would hit the stores well before Thanksgiving. Lastly, video fans may rejoice in March when Sanyo puts out their first High Definition camcorder, Xacti HD1, with 10x zoom for only \$800. It also doubles as a 5 MP digital camera.

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The Nebraska Lottery is forming an elite cadre of fun, outgoing individuals to mingle with crowds and promote products at events, concerts, festivals, clubs and bars. This is a permanent, part-time job that pays \$12 to \$18 per hour. We're looking for individuals to represent the 21 through 29 age group. Auditions are in Omaha on January 28th and in Lincoln on January 29th. Go to [playlgo.com](http://playlgo.com) for time, location and job description.

**OMAHA: SATURDAY, JANUARY 28  
LINCOLN: SUNDAY, JANUARY 29**

EEO/AA/VI



# ENTERTAINMENT

January 27, 2006 | [entertainment@gateway.unomaha.edu](mailto:entertainment@gateway.unomaha.edu)

Page 6

Andrew Cumbee | Entertainment Editor

## Underworld: Evolution needs more evolving

REVIEW BY SANEL SAMELIVIC STAFF WRITER

*Underworld: Evolution* can easily be summed up as underwhelming. From the very beginning, this movie takes a wrong metaphorical turn into an underworld of its own. It features blood, cursing, gore, evil creatures and hot female leads.

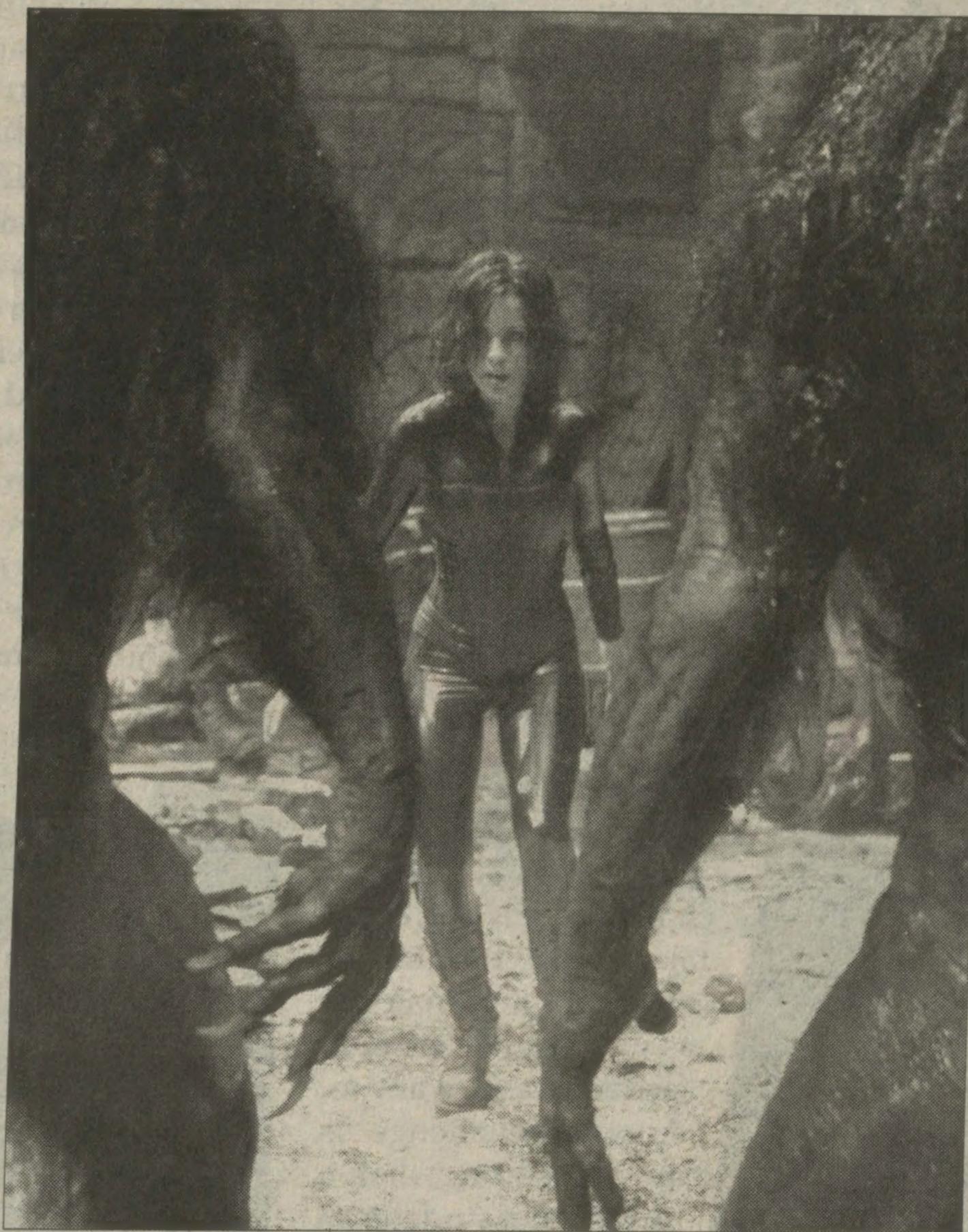
*Evolution* is a second part to an originally successful movie. However, the only evolution here seems to have been my growing disgruntlement over the course of a movie. *Underworld: Evolution* is a vampire movie, with not only vampires, but also evil werewolves.

The story claims that the vampires and werewolves have been at war for thousands of years, but somehow these wars have gone unnoticed and unaccounted for in our human history.

Director Len Wiseman attempts to infuse this movie with a feeling of lasting ancestry and history, a sense that there is an ancient story being played out. But it simply does not work.

Kate Beckinsale plays the sexy, female vampire lead, Selene, on the run from big-bad vampires and werewolves. The first evil vampire is Victor (Bill Nighy), who we know is evil because there is scary music playing when Selene kills him in a flashback. His subordinates are after Selene because she killed him. Along with her lover, Selene finds herself on the run from another bad vampire, Marcus (Tony Curran), and this vampire has wings. We know Marcus is evil because he is chasing Selene, and thanks to an ancient Hollywood formula the person being chased is always the good guy.

Marcus is chasing Selene because he wants to get his hands on a key that will unlock the tomb of his brother William, the original werewolf. Only Selene knows where



Sony Pictures

*Underworld: Evolution* features even more vampire vs. werewolf action with Kate Beckinsale returning as Selene.

the tomb is, because she is the only surviving member of the family who saw it.

When Marcus finally catches up to Selene, he reads her memories by drinking her blood. Apparently, all human memories are stored in their blood and DNA, rather than their brain, something unknown to Freud and all psychologists over past centuries.

*Underworld: Evolution* also features one of the most awkwardly-placed sex scenes in recent cinema. Just like the rest of the movie it felt unusually construed and out of place. The scene plays out like something along the lines of Selene saying she is hurt, and her lover Michael (Scott Speedman) says he is going to go look for something to help her. She says she is fine, but he goes ahead and gets the medicine anyway. Upon his return, as she said all along, she is actually fine. In turn, her vampire/werewolf lover says, 'ok since you are fine, we should have sex.'

Well-crafted fight scenes allow this movie to dodge all questions about logic until the very end, and by then it is too late. The battle sequences were quite well done, but special effects have come a long way in the last several years so viewers should expect nothing less than perfection. Therefore, even in that aspect the action fails because it is a product of computer engineering and not of acting or directing.

Overall, this is a very bad movie for those seeking any sort of value in it. The characters and plot do not require any sort of an involvement from the audience besides going out to get a coke refill.

Grade: C



### Religion ≠ God

Do you question the God of the Bible and the unbelievable stories in it? Have you lost interest in the Church but long for some kind of spirituality?

These and related matters are discussed in

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The historical and scientific truth about the God that religion invented and hints about the God that science may someday discover.

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Word-search through the book at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

## Release Dates and Events: Jan. 27 - Feb. 2

ANDREW CUMBEE  
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

### Concerts:

Friday, Jan. 27  
Sarah Benck & The Robbers with Anonymous America and The Scott Severin Band @ Sokol Underground, 9 p.m., \$7

Sunday, Jan. 29  
The Rolling Stones @ Qwest Center Omaha, 7:30 p.m., \$62-\$352

### DVD:

Tuesday, Jan. 31

*In Her Shoes*  
*The Legend of Zorro*  
*Corpse Bride*

*Dune (Extended Edition)*

### In Theaters:

Friday, Jan. 27

*Big Momma's House 2*  
Annapolis

### Music Albums:

Tuesday, Jan. 31

*Yellowcard: Lights and Sounds*  
*Train: For Me, It's You*

### Gaming New Releases:

*Devil May Cry 3: Special Edition* - PS2  
*Torino 2006* - PS2, XB, PC  
*MVP 06 NCAA* - PS2, XB

### From LITERACY: Page 1

"Literacy skills are a key to student success both at UNO and for students' future careers," said Sheri Rogers, associate vice chancellor for Academic Affairs. "At UNO we focus on students and their achievement of these essential life skills."

Rogers added that while UNO students were not among the 1,827 students participating in the survey, literacy attainment is "embedded in various programs" at the university, including special initiatives "aimed at general math literacy."

"We are actually doing several things," said Mathematics Department Chair Jack Heidel.

The mathematics department focuses much of its attention on its intermediate algebra course, which is required for all UNO students, according to Heidel. Most intermediate algebra sections are taught by the math lab, which offers small group sessions and extensive support to ensure student success.

For students with math anxiety, the department offers a program called Pathways to Success. In this program, students who agree to attend class and keep up are offered unlimited attempts at examinations until they earn a passing mark. Special sections of intermediate algebra are also offered for students suffering from anxiety; these sections meet four times a week rather than the typical three.

"There are over a hundred students each semester that sign up for this," Heidel said.

"All of our courses are algebra-based and we deal a lot with proportional thinking," Chemistry Chair James Carroll said. "Students with real problems with quantitative literacy often do not take chemistry because it has a reputation for being hard. Chemistry does prod students to improve their quantitative literacy if it is marginal when they start with us."

The chemistry department also

emphasizes literacy in other ways, such as asking students to analyze newspaper stories in basic level courses. Laboratory work often emphasizes analyzing problems that require quantitative literacy and group collaboration.

Carroll stressed the importance of concepts like compound interest and credit cards in today's world and the importance quantitative literacy has on students' lives outside of the classroom.

For literacy inside the classroom, the UNO College of Education is training the next generation of teachers in the methods of teaching language arts.

"Most of UNO's future students come from the surrounding school districts, taught by teachers prepared in the UNO Teacher Education Department," Rogers said.

"In terms of our undergraduate programs, our goal is to help our teacher candidates be effective teachers in reading and writing," teaching education professor Wilma Kuhlman said.

"We work with teachers who are working on becoming better reading teachers and better writing teachers."

Several graduate students in English are also promoting literacy in another way: working at the new UNO Writing Center, assisting students with composition assignments and other writing projects.

"Our goal is to encourage [students'] critical thinking," Writing Center Director Connie Eberhart said. "Literacy has to do with critical thinking. We help give writers skills."

Eberhart also made the observation that during her 20 years at the university, she felt the students in general were "better prepared," but did not speculate regarding the reasons for this improvement, citing various factors such as changing admission requirements.

"When we talk about literacy, it's not just reading—it's writing and the critical thinking that goes with it," Eberhart said.

# SPORTS

Page 7

sports@gateway.unomaha.edu | January 27, 2006

## Runners prepare for weekend in Ames

NATHAN LEETE  
SPORTS EDITOR

The UNO track and field team will be in the Iowa State Open this weekend at the Lied Recreation Facility in Ames, Iowa.

The women's weight throw will kick off the meet at 4 p.m. Friday Jan. 27, and the meet will end with the 4x400-meter relay scheduled for 5:40 p.m. Saturday Jan. 28.

Iowa State men's track coach Steve Lynn said in a press release he expects more than 1,500 athletes to compete



Laverne Monger

Open will be posted each day one hour after the events conclude at cyclones.com.

in the meet.

On Jan. 20, the 4x400-meter relay team of Karin Clarkson, Rebekah Hughes, Magda Orzylowski and Laverne Monger set a school record with a time of three minutes, 45.39 seconds at the Adidas Classic in Lincoln, Neb.

The Mavericks also won four titles on Jan. 21 at the Ward Haylett Invite hosted by Doane College.

Results for the ISU

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## Mav Notes

COMPILED BY NATHAN LEETE  
SPORTS EDITOR

### Garcia earns Wrestler of the Week honors

UNO 125-pounder Cody Garcia earned the North Central Conference's Wrestler of the Week honors for his performance at the Brand Open last weekend. Garcia swept four matches at the tournament, including three pins in seven minutes and 55 seconds. The Hutchison, Kan., native improved to 29-3 on the year and was also named the tournament's outstanding wrestler.

### Kapels named Nebraska Player of the Week

Calvin Kapels earned the Nebraska

Division II Player of the Week honors for his pair of 23-point performances against South Dakota and Upper Iowa last week. Kapels shot 55 percent from the field and hit 20 of 29 from the line. He led the Mavericks in scoring in the 87-80 victory over South Dakota and again in the 99-77 win over Upper Iowa. This is the second time he's earned the award this season.

### Baseball team to hold annual banquet

The UNO baseball team will hold the Maverick Baseball Banquet on Sunday, Feb. 19, at the Millard Plaza Ballroom. Cocktail hour begins at 5 p.m. with dinner at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$30 per guest. The ballroom is located at 5339 139th St. Call Geri Backora at 554-2506 for more information.

## Hockey heads to the frozen North

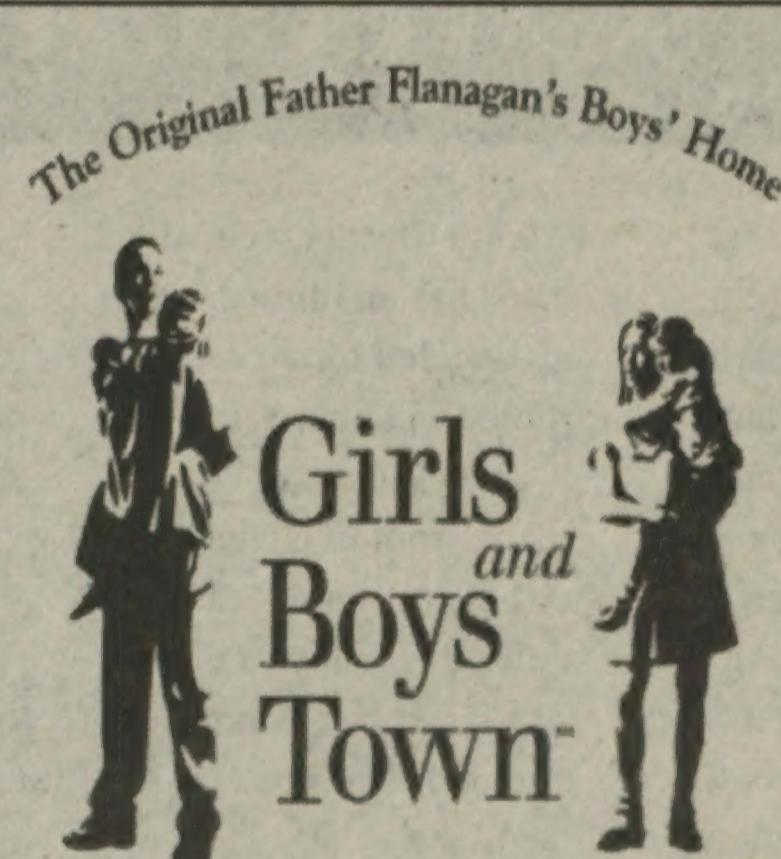
NATHAN LEETE  
SPORTS EDITOR

The UNO hockey team will be in action against Alaska-Fairbanks this weekend. The Mavericks are looking to break a 14-game winless streak against the Nanooks when they take the ice at the Carlson Center in Fairbanks, Ala., Friday and Saturday. Faceoff is scheduled for 10:05 p.m. both nights.

The Mavericks improved their record to 13-11-2 after their split with Michigan State last weekend but still sit at the No. 9

position in the Central Collegiate Hockey Association. The Nanooks are 10-11-3 and sit at the No. 11 spot. Only three points separate the Mavericks from the No. 4 spot in the CCHA, and with four conference points available this weekend, a win is crucial for the Mavs.

The two teams split games on Nov. 18 and 19 at the Qwest Center in their previous meeting this season. UNO won 4-2 in the first game but dropped the second by a score of 3-4.



HELP • HEALING • HOPE

### Youth Care Positions

The Girls and Boys Town (GBT) Youth Care Program is looking for individuals who want to make a difference in the lives of youth. The individual partners with youth care professionals, using reinforcement and teaching techniques, social skill interactions, relationship-building strategies and youth empowerment, for youth ages 9 to 19 in a residential setting. We are currently looking for Family-Teaching Couples, Assistant Family-Teachers, and Respite Technicians. These positions work various shifts including days, nights, and weekends.

**Requirements:** Must be 21 years old, have a valid driver's license with a good driving record. High school diploma or GED, collegiate hours or degree in Human Services preferred.

**Benefits and Rewards:** Satisfaction of making a difference in the lives of youth and their families. Training is provided with ongoing training and support provided by experienced youth care professionals. Excellent no-wait benefits and 401K.

**Contact:** E-mail: [biggera@girlsandboystown.org](mailto:biggera@girlsandboystown.org) Fax: (402) 498-3058 Toll free: 1-877-639-6003, apply in person: Girls and Boys Town, 378 Bucher Drive, Boys Town, NE 68010, web site: [www.girlsandboystown.org](http://www.girlsandboystown.org)

## Parking Notice

If you are parking on the South Campus, DO NOT park in FDR's parking lot!



If you have any questions, please contact Campus Security at 554-2648.

Drug Testing/EOE

# Mav-Rec



## Trips & Workshops:

### Cross Country Skiing in the Grand Teton:

#### Pre-Trip Meeting:

Tuesday, Feb. 28 from 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

#### Trip Dates:

Saturday, Mar. 11 - Sunday, Mar. 19

\$335 for UNO Students/Faculty

\$386 for General Public

Add \$15 if registering after Mar. 1

- Join the OVC on a Spring Break Trip to one of the country's premier national parks -- The Grand Teton.
- Trip includes four nights lodging in Jackson, Wyoming; five days of camping and cross country skiing; and one day of downhill or cross country skiing on groomed trails.

### Adult CPR Workshop:

Tuesday, Feb. 7 from 7:00 PM - 9:30 PM

\$20 for UNO Students/Faculty

\$29 for General Public

Add \$5 late fee if registering after Jan. 30

- Learn skills needed to deal with sudden illness, obstructed airways, respiratory and cardiac arrest.
- Completion of this workshop will earn you an American Red Cross certification good for one year.

### CPR for the Professional Workshop:

Saturday, Feb. 11 from 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

\$40 for UNO Students/Faculty

\$46 for General Public

Add \$5 late fee if registering after Feb. 3

- Learn skills needed to deal with breathing and cardiac emergencies in adults, children and infants.
- The use of breathing devices and bag valves is covered, as well as two-person CPR.

## Trips & Workshops:

# Health, Physical Education and Recreation Building Hours

Monday - Thursday: 6:30 AM - 11:00 PM

Friday: 8:30 AM - 7:00 PM

Saturday: 8:30 AM - 7:00 PM

Sunday: 12:00 PM - 10:00 PM

### Basic Climbing Workshop:

Thursdays, Feb. 9 - Mar. 9 from 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

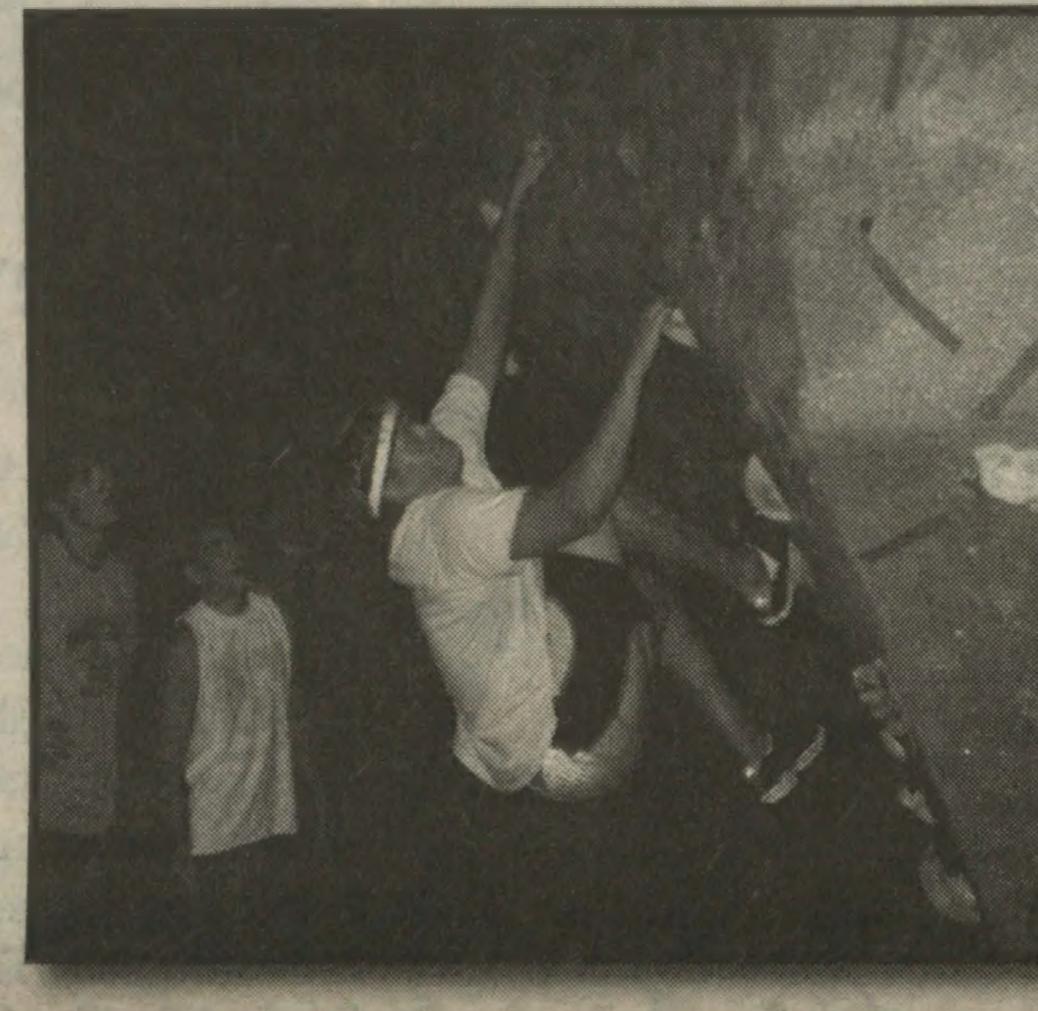
\$40 for UNO Students/Faculty

\$55 for General Public

Add \$5 late fee if registering after Feb. 2

- Learn or master rock climbing skills such as stemming, overhangs, mantling and rappelling during five evening sessions.
- Equipment is included in the registration price.

Questions? Call OVC 554.2258



## Open Golf & Archery Hours:

Jan. 24 - Apr. 14 (CLOSED Mar. 13 - 17)

Tuesdays 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Wednesdays 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Fridays 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM

\*\*\*\*\*Located in HPER 230\*\*\*\*\*

Stop by HPER 100 and pick up the Spring 2006 Group Ex Schedule to check out 19 other FREE drop in Group Ex Programs!!!!

## Mav-Rec Upcoming IM Sports Special Events:

### Bowling Night:

Monday, Jan. 30 at 8:00 PM

For questions or to register call 554.2634

Register by Jan. 27th!!!!

### Basketball Skills Competition:

Monday, Feb. 6 at 7:00 PM

Will be held in HPER Gymnasium

No registration required!!!

Questions? Call Isaac 554.2634

# Classified Ads

## NOTICES

### Outstanding Leaders Needed

Advertising will be rejected that discriminates based on age, race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, marital status or sexual orientation.

## LOST & FOUND

FOR ITEMS LOST AT UNO  
Contact Campus Security, EAB 100, 554-2648.

Turned-in items can be claimed by a description and proper identification.

Advertising for items lost or found on the UNO campus will be published free in the Gateway for two weeks. Forms are available at the Office located in Milo Bail 1st Floor.

## HELP WANTED

Lifechangers Academy Now Hiring. F/T and P/T Education majors needed. Hours are: 9 am-12 pm/3-6 pm/9-5 pm. Please call 551-1250.

P/T flexible nanny needed, competitive pay. 2 kids, mlny aftnrs, email: sweetpeasandpods@gmail.com w/ experience & phn #.

### Fashion Cleaners/Omaha Lace

Lace has an immediate opening for a part time Customer Service Representative. The applicant must have excellent communication skills, the ability to multi task and be customer oriented. This position is ideal for a college student who is available Monday thru Friday 2:30 to 7:00 pm and Saturdays 8:00 am to 3:00 pm. Please apply at Fashion Cleaners 2895 West Center Road or Omaha Lace Cleaners 2528 So. 130th Ave.

### Summer positions for all majors!

Initial application deadline: February 10. Applications received after deadline may be accepted until all positions are filled. Applications are available on-line at 4h.unl.edu/camp/staff/. For information call: (402) 472-1710 or email: jwalahoski2@unl.edu

### Join Our Team

Leasing Consultant The Tradition Apartments We are looking for an energetic person who enjoys working with people. If you are interested contact Kerry at 934-9777 to schedule an appointment.

### EDUCATION MAJORS!

Stephenson School Supply is looking for outgoing PT retail help. 2 early afternoons/eves and Saturdays. Great atmosphere and exposure to teaching materials. Apply in person at either Stephenson's, both located near Austad's golf stores in Westwood Plaza at 121st & W. Center or Cedarnole Plaza at 328 S. 72nd.

Experienced video camera person, must have access to portable video equipment. Will be filming on the road for 10 to 14 days this summer. 706-8800.

Great Harvest Bread Co. Part-time, Afternoons. Customer Service, Cleaning, Closing. Apply at Rockbrook Village - 10916 Elm St. 390-9988.

EGG DONORS WANTED! Fee for donation. Women must be 18-30. Call for application. Steven Litz, Attorney (317) 996-2000 lic # 10328-49.

## SERVICES

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Musicians/ Actors/Entertainers NEED PRESS? Contact Moxie PR Melissa melissa@moxiepublications.com Or 402-677-0930

PIANO INSTRUCTION Experienced, caring teacher with Master's Degree. Children & adults of all ages welcome. Donna Zebolsky 991-5774.

DEFENSE LAWYER Call the Law Office of Timothy Watts for your Criminal defense needs. 402-345-0244.

HOUSING APTS., HOUSES and sleeping rms. for rent, roommate lists - call UNO off-campus Housing Referral Service at 554-2383 or stop in the Admin. Office, Milo Bail Student Center.

APARTMENTS AVAILABLE 40th & Cass Streets (Between Cathedral and Joslyn Castle) Large 1 and 2 Bedroom Apartments Carpet, Central Air, All appliances Lease from \$395-\$550 per month. Heat and Water Paid Belgrade Company

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Two Bedroom Home - Dundee area. \$650/mo + util + deposit. No smoking. No pets. Great Landlord. 498-8311.

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126th & Harrison, 3 bedroom/2 bath, finished basement w/ fireplace, fenced yard w/ large deck. 2 car garage. \$1200/mo. 6 or 12 month lease. Pets okay. Brandon 402-770-9193.

## TRAVEL

#1 Spring Break Website! Low prices guaranteed. Book 11 people, get 12th trip free! Group discounts for 6+. www.SpringBreakDiscounts.com or www.LeisureTours.com or 800-838-8202.

Spring Break 2006 with Student Travel Services to Jamaica, Mexico, Bahamas and Florida. Don't get left behind! Book now, limited space available. Call for group discounts. Info/Reservations 800-648-4849 www.ststravel.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS Thank you St. Jude for many special favors. KT.

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